

HELP FOR THE HANDICAPPED

GRAY HAIR ONE PROBLEM THIS
BUREAU CONTENTS WITH.It Seeks Too to Find Work for the Crip-
pled and Those Incapacitated in
other Ways—Those Who Have Fought
With Tuberculosis a Real Problem.

"Yes, ma'am, 'twas a grand St. Patrick's day, though I did be havin' the grip, an' didn't be havin' much else! There was me in the very middle o' the Sixty-ninth Regiment up to the Cathedral an' receivin' me own share o' the blessin'."

"Mebbe if I'd had worruk I'd not have been there at all, at all, an' that's worth thinkin' about, now ain't it? Sure, God is good an' patience is the fine virtue fur the mas out of a job. I ain't a worryin'."

"I was born a long time ago an' I ain't dead yet, an' I'm 17. If the Lord has took care of me this long what fur would I think He'd let me down now? An' thank yer for yer letter, ma'am. A civil worruk don't harm nobody an' it helps a lot."

The rich brogue, the optimistic sentiments and the thin, pale woman who uttered them trailed off toward the elevator in the Charities building, leaving a wake of smiles in the employment bureau for the handicapped.

"Mary's a regular female Mark Tapley," laughed the manager. "She's always looking on the bright side. She's a good cook, but she lost the thumb of her right hand a few years ago and that's made it hard for her. We did get her a place in an institution that she kept it a year. Then there was a change of matrons, and if you know anything about such matters you know that a new matron generally means a clean sweep of her subordinates. Mary hasn't had a place for some time now, but her optimism is unquenched."

But even Mary's cheerfulness might fade away if in addition to her own troubles she had to face all the hard luck stories that are told within the four walls of the bureau. Since it was opened five years ago they have been coming in at the rate of about a hundred a month.

The gist of their stories is on the record cards, hundreds and hundreds of them in the drawers of the big cabinet. Each of these cards has its little upstanding tag of one of a dozen colors. Each of these colors stands for some kind of affliction which makes it hard for a person to get work. Black means old age, yellow means crippled, white means convalescent, and so on. As one looks at a careful of these cards one sees at a glance that there are many more of some colors than of others and that there are more black tags than any other kind.

The aged are the great handicapped class when it comes to getting work. "Aged" from the bureau's point of view means past 50 or even less than that if one's hair is conspicuously gray.

Gray hair is a mark of Cain in the world of work and an old man is the most heavily handicapped hunter of a job. It's easier to find places for the women. Conditions have changed of late years. Girls who must earn a living are less and less willing to go into domestic service and there are more and more chances for them to do something else. So the elderly women who once were looked at askance are welcomed now. Their age, if they don't show it in actual feebleness, may even be a point in their favor indicating that they have settled down.

But some of the old men give you a headache. Not many of them are professional men. There's an occasional one who has got into the grip of the drug habit, but they are scarce at the bureau. Lawyers hunting a job are scarcer still. Most of the old men who are painfully clinging to the lowest rung of the industrial ladder are those who have had salaried office places or have been in business. Some of them have, in the significant phrase of the manager, "been through Wall Street." A few of them dropped a fortune in the course of their transit. All of them became "aged" in the fruitless endeavor to come back.

Other men have been laid on the shelf of the handicapped by some change in industrial conditions. Automobiles have forced out the old cab drivers. Trolley cars took the reins from the old horse car drivers. Electrifying the elevated trains turned out some of the engineers, the old dogs who couldn't or wouldn't learn the new trick. These men knew nothing but their own job and can't seem to pick up another. They have got gray, or 50, waiting for the rising of a sun which has set for keeps.

One of the colored tags in the card cabinet is a red one. It stands for "bad industrial record." That may mean that a man has been discharged for some reason which prevents his getting references. He may have been suspected of dishonesty or he may have made some costly mistake or perhaps have been mixed up in a strike. It is a good many years since the elevated strike, but there is no reason to register the badge of one who has never had steady work since then.

What can these men do? Well, most of them could do their own work pretty well. Some of them can do very well. One of the men registered at the bureau who has a good office record behind him said:

"It's not efficiency that's wanted nowadays. It's show. I've got my own work to which they have given their life, these men know very little. There are a good many of them who did know enough to get married, though, and according to the bureau manager, their investment in matrimony was the best they ever made. The number of wives and daughters who are taking care of husbands and fathers is a telling argument for feminine loyalty and pluck."

The handicapped men of this class seem dependent on odd jobs or on a chance to get work as a handy man, as night watchmen or janitors. A handy man takes care of floors, beats rugs, cleans windows and woodwork and tinkers around a house. It is the last and only refuge of many would-be workers. The bureau tries to get the contractors to give its clientele all their jobs as watchmen. But some say that politics has a finger in that pie. Anyway the offerings are not numerous.

Next to the aged come the cripples, yet the cripples from birth; most of these have been taught a cripple's work and are more or less provided for. The really handicapped are those who have become incapacitated through accident or disease. There are so many who are crippled by rheumatism that they get a colored tag of their own. And then there are the paralyzed, especially those who have had infantile paralysis.

"Oh, yes," sighed the manager. "We have a good many of them. And we will have a great many more in a few years when the victims of the recent epidemic have reached the working age."

The industrial cripples include the lame, the blind and the blind. In the course of the week they have lost legs, arms, eyes, and so on. It is a regiment of them from which as many whole men and women could be pressed out. They're in a bad way. The lame, the blind, the deaf, the dumb, the idiotic, the epileptic, the mentally diseased, the sufferers from heart trouble, ex-convicts, the deaf, dumb and paralytic, and the totally blind are not

Debutantes of the Winter and of Recent Seasons



Miss Gwendolyn Burden, who has for several years been one of the popular young women in society, is the second daughter of Mr. and Mrs. L. Townsend Burden of 2 East Ninety-second street. Miss Burden's sister is Miss Evelyn Byrd Burden, who is also popular in society. Mrs. Burden was Miss Evelyn Byrd Noale of Baltimore and her sister married the late Robert Cutting.

For many years the Burdens had a house on the north side of Madison Square, and they were among the last residents

of that region to abandon an attractive home overlooking the square. I. Townsend Burden, Jr., who is a brother of Miss Burden, is engaged to be married to Miss Florence Sheedy. Her sister was recently married to Johnston Livingston of this city. The Burden residence is now at the corner of Fifth avenue and Ninety-second street.

Miss Jane Page, who made her debut in society several years ago, is a sister of Mrs. John W. Cross, who was Miss Lily Lee Page. Miss Page's parents

are Mr. and Mrs. Howard Page of 121 East Thirty-ninth street. Mrs. Page was Miss Mildred A. Mitchell of Louisville, Ky.

Miss Page's engagement to Cortlandt Nicoll, son of Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin Nicoll, has just been announced. She is to be married in Easter week at St. George's Church. Mrs. Cross will be matron of honor for her sister, while Miss Elsie Nicoll, a sister of the bridegroom, will be the only bridesmaid. The best man will be J. Cowper Lord

and the ushers will be Alexander D. B. Pratt, Henry S. Hooker, John W. Cross, Percy Pyne, 2d, Walter Stillman, Charles Dana, Edgar Palmer and Lieut. Stephen Rowan.

Miss Dorothy Taylor, who was introduced to society two years ago, is a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Bertrand L. Taylor of 784 Fifth avenue. Mrs. Taylor was Miss Nellie Cadwell. Miss Taylor has spent much of the present season at Palm Beach but had previously been conspicuous in the social events of the

winter. She appeared in costume at several of the fancy dress balls given during the winter.

Miss Ruth Stillman was introduced to society two years ago. She is daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph F. Stillman of 35 East Thirty-ninth street. Walter N. Stillman, her brother, was recently married to Miss Constance Pratt, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Dallas B. Pratt.

Miss Eleanor G. Brown is one of the debutantes of last season. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Waldron P. Brown of 32 East Thirty-third street. Miss Brown was Miss Isabella M. Wright before her marriage.

Robes and Coronets for the Coronation

LONDON, March 15.—The robes and coronets to be worn by peersesses at the coronation differ widely. Full evening dress will be the order of the day for all, however, and the display of jewels will be one of the finest ever seen. Some of the peeresses who have small tiaras will wear them, for on entering the Abbey their heads will be adorned simply with the lace veils which hang down over the robes in the back and are fastened to the hair with jeweled ornaments. The coronets are not adjusted till the King and Queen have been crowned, when the peers and peeresses place their coronets on their heads.

There are a great many more peeresses now than when King Edward was crowned, and they will be seated in the Abbey according to their rank. The Duchesses take precedence, of course, and their robes and coronets are the most elaborate. Four Duchesses are to hold the canopy

over Queen Mary's head, and the others, including the Duchesses of Marlborough, Manchester and Roxburgh, will have seats near the royal family. They will all wear elaborate evening gowns, jewel studded. Their coronets will have the dual strawberry leaves. Their robes will be bordered with ermine bands five inches wide, while their short capes, which hang just between the shoulders, will have four rows of black spots on the white ground. These distinctions mark them as Duchesses.

The Marchionesses, who come next in rank will have but three and a half rows of spots on their capes and only a four inch band of ermine, while their coronets will be simpler and will bear a different design. The Marchioness of Dufferin and Ava will be the only American in this rank.

The Countesses have still another design on their coronets, while their capes

have but three rows of spots and their robes have only a three inch band of ermine. The American Countesses are numerous, among them being Ladies Granard, Essex, Sussex and Ancestor.

The Viscountesses have two and a half rows of spots and a three inch band of fur, while the Baronesses' wives have only two rows of spots on their capes and a two inch band of fur. There are many Americans in this rank, Ladies Decies, Ashton, Maidstone, Paget, Abinger, Barrymore, Newborough, Leith and Innesker among others.

The knights' wives do not properly rank as peeresses, but many of them will go to the Abbey, either because their husbands are members of Parliament or because they have been specially invited. They will wear full evening dress or reception gowns. Ladies Parker, Cunard, Henry and Evans are some of the American women in this list.

Though the distinctions of rank must be conformed to as regards details of actual state costume there is no rule regarding jewels, so every woman may wear all her precious stones of greatest value. Queen Alexandra really possesses the finest jewelry in the kingdom, but as she has decided not to appear at the coronation Queen Mary will have the finest display of gems. She will wear nothing but rubies and diamonds.

The Duchesses of Buccleuch and Westminister have the most gorgeous jewels among women of their rank. The Duchess of Buccleuch will wear the Buccleuch sapphires, while the Duchess of Westminister will have as a pendant the wonderful Nassau diamond, one of the treasures of the Grosvenor family. The Duchess of Marlborough, who seldom uses much jewelry, will wear the famous Vanderbilt pearls.

Modest London Clubs.

From the Gentlewoman.

There is still a very marked contrast between the unobtrusiveness of the really distinguished clubs of long standing and such wondrous erections as the new mammoth building in Pall Mall.

Those who do not know their London if walking eastward from Marlborough House would scarcely notice the modest little door with its glass panels and round lamp which admits to the Marlborough Club; yet here the highest in the land, from the King downward, are quite content to congregate day by day under comparatively simple conditions.

The Guards' Club, exactly opposite, is scarcely if at all more conspicuous, nor do such select symposia as the Travellers, Brooks or Arthur's in any way (to use a commercial simile) "put their goods in the front window." The Turf Club is of imposing dimensions, and occupies of course a fine situation in Piccadilly, overlooking the Green Park, yet here, as well as at the Bachelors' Club further westward, a distinguished simplicity and utter absence of ostentation is the invariable rule.

New Source of Rubber Supply.

From Peru To-Day.

Until within the last few years the principal sources of rubber could be divided into two zones, that of the Amazon, comprising Peru, Brazil and Bolivia, and the African, which includes the Congo and Eastern Africa.

New countries have now entered the market, competing fearfully with South American rubber. To illustrate the advance in production, let us take as an example Ceylon, whose exportation of rubber has increased progressively from 3,553 kilos in 1901 to 587,000 kilos in 1909. Large areas are also being planted in Java, Sumatra, Borneo, Malasia and the Straits.

WILL BUY JEWELS HERE

NEW YORK TO PROFIT BY THE
CORONATION TRADE.

Many American Women Who Are Going to London Will Purchase the Ornaments They Need in New York and Have the Duty Artificial Jewels in Demand.

The coronation and its London season are probably of more interest to jewellers than to most other merchants of this city. Although American women may decide to postpone buying a hat or gown until they reach Europe they are almost certain to purchase whatever jewels they want here in New York, and many extra pieces of jewelry will be bought by Americans bound for the coronation. A jeweller said that only the very rich cared to ignore the high duty levied on set jewels and that it was not the very rich who in his opinion would spend the most for jewelry between now and June.

"Most of the New York women who are socially prominent in Europe have jewels quite as splendid and in as up to date settings as any they will see worn by English women. Besides some of the most fashionable Americans will not be in London until after the coronation and its attendant jam is over."

"One, for example, told a friend, who told me, that when she wrote to engage the hotel suite she occupies every time she goes to London at a cost of \$21 a day for a couple of weeks stay or so the reply was that this suite would be \$24 a day and that it must be taken for four weeks. 'I have concluded,' the woman told her friend, 'that I can spend a couple of weeks or so very pleasantly in Italy and France and reach London a little later.'"

"No, it is not the very rich and fashionable we jewellers expect to sell to in this off season. It is to women who have perhaps been intending to treat themselves to a chain or a collar or a corsage ornament, or who are spurred on to do it by the unusual occasion."

"Also a great deal of money will change hands for imitation jewels, reconstructed stones they are called now, for to appear at the fashionable London hotels and restaurants in imitation jewels of some sort would not be in keeping, some New Yorkers have told me, with the occasion or with the reputation moneyed Americans have for wearing handsome jewels. These women may not be rich, relatively, that is, but they or their husbands are prosperous enough to put them on a financial footing with English women who do wear handsome jewels. At any rate they want to dress the part of prosperous Americans."

"Again American women are going over this year who never have been before and may never go again, and this helps the jewelry business. We shall not get orders perhaps for ropes of matched pearls or for the more splendid diamond necklaces, coronets, etc., orders which don't happen often anyway, but the number of small orders will easily be double what it is usually at this time of year."

THREE BALL BUSINESS AID

Pawnbrokers Often Called on to Save Tight Financial Situations.

"We have one client who comes here on an average once a month for a quick loan," said a pawnbroker's clerk. "About three years ago he opened a real estate office near us and moved his family into an apartment in the same building."

"One day he brought in three beautiful blue white diamonds, a ring and a pair of ear clips. He asked the boss to look them over carefully and say what he would lend on them. They were such good stones that the old man agreed to put up \$3,000."

"Well, I don't want anything to-day, but I may have to have a bundle of money suddenly some time, and then I don't want to wait for an appraisement," he said.

"Within a week he rushed in and got \$7,500 on the diamonds and repaid it in four days. He explained that only a certified check or cash would go in taking a real estate title and that it was cheaper sometimes to pay a few days interest than to go to a lawyer and pay the same sort of loans many times since."

"We have one customer whose salary check always keeps him going till the day before pay day. On the same day nearly every week he walks in, pushes his watch over the counter with the remark: 'Five dollars. I'll be in for the watch to-morrow. Please don't let it run down.' So we wind his watch, and he always comes for it on the dot."

"A few days ago a nearby jeweller hurried in with about \$3,000 worth of stock in a tray and got \$1,000 in big bills. He explained that he had redeemed his goods next day that a good but eccentric customer had sprung a \$1,000 bill on him and rather than admit that he couldn't change it he came here for a loan while the clerk kept the money in a safe."

"A lot of rich women whose husbands are neither prompt nor liberal with pin money are regular customers of pawnshops. They usually have a good excuse, they get their household expense checks."

"Many people use the loan offices instead of safe deposit vaults. Only yesterday a man going away for a two weeks hunt borrowed \$5 on a \$200 watch and \$100 on \$2,000 worth of jewelry that he neither wanted to risk at home nor in the wilds of Canada. It's an old story about furs being lost in spring and summer clothes in the fall to keep them from the moths."

"Jewelry and rug dealers very often put some of their stock in pawn to raise cash to tide over a tight situation. They can do that secretly without hurting their credit, while an application for a loan on such security to a bank would be likely to lead to complications."

Sign a Belle of Paris Name.

From the Wide World Magazine.

Paris is a city of curious signboards, one of the most remarkable ones representing a tobacco-shop's sign at 55 Rue du Château-d'Eau, which has been here ever since 1870. It is riddled with holes made by the bullets of the Prussians, and the occupant of the shop states that so far as he is aware, it is the only public relic of the Franco-Prussian War in evidence in the streets of Paris to-day.

"My sign," he added, "brings me plenty of customers. You have no idea, monsieur, of the number of English and American tourists who pass this way and drop into my place for a cigar or a box of matches, merely in order to have a word with me about my bullet riddled enseigne. I wouldn't part with it for anything."

Animals That Go Mad.

From the Forum.

In Paris of a list of 1908 of all kinds of animals which had bitten people and which were suspected of being afflicted with rabies there were as many as 337 dogs; of the remaining animals in this official list there were 247 horses, 6 cats and 7 others of the various domestic animals. It will be seen from this that the dog is not the only offender, though he leads all others by a large plurality.

In Prussia, that country of statistical delight, there are numerous animals officially listed, of bites from rabid cattle and even from the mildest of animals ordinarily, the deer. As regards Russia one would naturally suppose that wolves would figure largely in a source of danger in biting other animals and man. Russian statistics substantiate the correctness of this supposition.

